

# Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission Report

New

October 2007

## USA Comments

### CHAPTER 2.4.2.

## INFECTION WITH RANAVIRUS

### Article 2.4.2.1.

For the purposes of the *Aquatic Code*, infection with ranavirus means infection ~~with~~ by any ~~members~~ genotype of the genus *Ranavirus* in the family Iridoviridae, with the exception of epizootic haematopoietic necrosis virus and European catfish virus.

**Comments/rationale:** wording change for clarity

Methods for conducting surveillance and diagnosis of infection with ranavirus are provided in the *Aquatic Manual*.

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### Article 2.4.2.3.

#### Commodities

1. When authorising the importation or transit of the following *commodities*, the *Competent Authorities* should not require any ranavirus related conditions, regardless of the ranavirus status of the *exporting country*, *zone* or *compartment*:
  - a) ...
3. When considering the importation/transit from an *exporting country*, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free of ranavirus of any live *commodity* of a species not covered in Article 2.4.2.2. but which could reasonably be expected to be a potential ranavirus vector, the *Competent Authorities* Authority(ies) of the receiving country(ies) should conduct a *risk analysis* in accordance with the recommendations in the *Aquatic Code*. The *exporting country* should be informed of the outcome of this assessment.

**Comments/rationale:** wording change for clarity

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### Article 2.4.2.4.

#### Ranavirus free country

A country may make a *self-declaration of freedom* from ranavirus if it meets the conditions in points 1, 2, 3 or 4 below.

If a country shares a *zone* with one or more other countries, it can only make a *self-declaration of freedom* from ranavirus if all the areas covered by the *zone* are declared ranavirus free (see Article 2.4.2.5.).

1. A country where none of the *susceptible species* referred to in Article 2.4.2.2. is present may make a *self-declaration of freedom* from ranavirus when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been continuously met in the country for at least the past 2 years.

OR

2. A country where the *susceptible species* referred to in Article 2.4.2.2. are present but there has been no observed occurrence of the *disease* for at least the past ~~45~~ 25 years despite conditions that are conducive to its clinical expression, as described in Chapter X.X.X. of the *Aquatic Manual* (under development), may make a *self-declaration of freedom* from ranavirus when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been continuously met in the country for at least the past 2 years.

**Comments/rationale:** change suggested for consistency with other sections of the Code and this document

OR

3. ...